

FAQ

Frequently Asked Questions

Question	Answer
What are you looking for?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Munitions and Explosives of Concern (MEC) • Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) • Discarded Military Munitions • Explosive Munitions Constituents (MC)
What was Fort Townsend used for?	<p>Fort Townsend, consisting of 615 acres, was acquired by the War Department in 1859 by Executive Order to provide protection for settlers on the Olympic Peninsula. In 1895 a fire destroyed most of the barracks on the northeast portion of the site and the fort was ordered decommissioned. From the turn of the century until World War II, the fort was in caretaker status. An airfield, used for pilot training, was built on the southwest portion of the fort in the 1920s. In July 1942 the Navy acquired the northeast portion of for X-ray examination of enemy naval mines, torpedoes and other munitions. In 1947 the airfield was conveyed to the county and the Jefferson County International Airport was established. In 1959, the Port of Port Townsend took over airport operations. The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission purchased the northeast portion from the government for Old Fort Townsend State Park.</p>
Why is the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers involved?	<p>The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is responsible for Department of Defense environmental programs on former lands. In the late 1980s the Formerly Used Defense Site program was the initiated. The Corps has conducted several</p>

	activities actions leading to the current project.
What prompted the current Site Investigation?	<p>In 2002 (National Defense Authorization Act), Congress required DoD to create an inventory of defense sites known or suspected of containing munitions or munitions constituents.</p> <p>DoD will prioritize the nationwide sites needing action and provide Congress with a response plan.</p> <p>All the Site Inspections need to be completed by the year 2010.</p>
How many sites are you inspecting?	<p>Currently there are two sites in Washington, former Fort Flagler Military Reservation and former Fort Townsend both near Port Townsend. Others sites may be identified in the future. Nationwide, DoD has identified over 3,300 sites with the following breakdown.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active installations (1,333) • Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) (318) • Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS) (1,658)
What is the goal of the Site Inspections?	To determine if munitions or munitions constituents are present.
What are the possible outcomes after completion of the SI?	Possible Outcomes of an SI are the elimination of a site from further action or identify the need for further investigation.
What if there is a need for further investigation?	<p>If there is a need to investigate further work may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remedial Investigation (RI) • Feasibility Study (FS)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine need for a time-critical removal action
How will the SI information be used if further work is needed?	SI provides information needed for EPA's Hazard Ranking System for National Priorities List (Superfund) sites. DoD will use the information for a new Munitions Response Site Prioritization Protocol.
What all is involved in the Site Inspection process?	The process begins with a review of available data, what we already know. Next a Technical Project Planning (TPP) is developed followed by a work plan, actual field work and finally a final report summarizing all activities.
What is the Technical Project Plan?	The TPP is developed by meeting with stakeholders (regulators, property owners, local businesses, etc) and identifying their issues concerns. Identifying Areas of Concern (AOCs) at the former camp, reviewing site information, verifying current and future land use. The TPP will develop a Conceptual Site Model, Identify Data Gaps and Data Objectives. Finally all parties will concur on a field work approach.
What types of munitions were used at Fort Townsend?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small Arms
What other activities were there at Fort Townsend?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Munitions demolition • Munitions Inspection
What other work has been done on the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2004 Inventory Project Report • 2005 Archive Search Report

Fort Townsend?	
Have munitions been found in the area?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Small Arms
What will the Corps be inspecting?	The Corps' contractor will be taking samples of soil, surface water and sediment, and groundwater.
Will the Site Inspection involve heavy equipment?	The SI will be non intrusive type of reconnaissance. The process will be visual and with the use of Magnetometers. The SI will be done by trained Unexploded Ordinance Experts. Their goal will be to avoid UXO, select samples and evaluate munitions.
Where will they get their samples from?	The will be getting samples from shallow soils, surface water/sediment and groundwater (existing wells).

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